DOCKET NO.: WATE-0013 **Application No.:** 10/509,166 **Office Action Dated:** April 25, 2007

PATENT
REPLY FILED UNDER EXPEDITED
PROCEDURE PURSUANT TO
37 CFR § 1.116

REMARKS

Claims 1-15, 17-19, 26-28, 32, 34-40, 43-51, and 53-57 stand rejected. Claims 16, 20-25, 29-31, 33, 41, 42, and 52 stand objected to. Claims 13-16, 33, and 53-56 are canceled. Claims 1, 4, 17, 20, 26-28, 30, 32, and 57 are amended. Claims 58-109 are new. After entry of the foregoing amendment, claims 1-12, 17-32, 34-52, and 57-109 will be pending in the application.

According to the Office Action, claims 16, 20-25, 29-31, 33, 41, 42, and 52 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if written in independent form. Applicant appreciates the recognition of allowable subject matter.

Independent claim 1 has been amended to incorporate the subject matter of dependent claims 13-16. Applicant respectfully submits that claim 1, as amended, is in condition for allowance. As claims 2-12 and 17-31 ultimately depend from claim 1, Applicant further submits that claims 2-12 and 17-31 are likewise allowable.

Independent claim 32 has been amended to incorporate the subject matter of dependent claim 33. Applicant respectfully submits that claim 32, as amended, is in condition for allowance. As claims 34-52 ultimately depend from claim 32, Applicant further submits that claims 34-52 are likewise allowable.

Claim 57 has been amended to incorporate the subject matter of claims 13-16. Thus, the rejection of claim 57 is rendered moot by amendment. Applicant respectfully submits that claim 57, as amended, distinguishes over the cited references and is patentable.

Claim 4 has been amended to correct an editorial error. Dependent claims 17, 20, 26-28, and 30 have been amended to change their dependency, which was necessitated by the cancellation of claims 13-16.

New independent claim 58 combines the subject matter of previously presented claims 57 and 24. New independent claim 59 combines the subject matter of previously presented claims 57 and 33. New independent claim 60 combines the subject matter of previously presented claims 57 and 41. Applicant respectfully submits that new claims 58-60 distinguish over the cited references and are patentable.

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New independent claim 61 is previously presented claim 24 (deemed allowable by the Examiner) rewritten in independent form to include all of the limitations of the previously presented base claim 1. New dependent claims 62-73 are the same as previously presented dependent claims 2-12 and 25, but depend either directly or indirectly from new independent claim 61. New independent claim 74 recites is previously presented dependent 41 (deemed allowable by the Examiner) rewritten in independent form to include all of the limitations of the previously presented base claim 32. New dependent claims 75-92 are the same as previously presented dependent claims 34-40 and 42-52, but depend either directly or indirectly from new independent claim 74. New independent claim 93 is previously presented claim 52 (deemed allowable by the Examiner) rewritten in independent form to include all of the limitations of the previously presented base claim 32. New dependent claims 94-109 are the same as previously presented dependent claims 34-40 and 43-51, but depend either directly or indirectly from new independent claim 93. Thus, Applicant respectfully submits that claims 61-109 are in condition for allowance.

For all the foregoing reasons, Applicant respectfully submits that the application is in condition for allowance. Accordingly, a Notice of Allowance for claims 1-12, 17-32, 34-52, and 57-109 is respectfully requested.

Date: September 19, 2007

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